21B 4-16-33 R. Derden

MAR 1 0 2003

PRADEMAN AP

PATENT Attorney's Docket No. <u>1232-4783</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

NANBA, et al.

Serial No.:

10/016,156

Group Art Unit:

2873

Filed

November 1, 2001

Examiner:

William C. CHOI

(RCE filed herewith)

For

ZOOM LENS AND IMAGE TAKING APPARATUS USING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX RCE

Commissioner Of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A Request For Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed concurrently.

IN THE CLAIMS:

REPRODEN 00000001 134503 replace claim 25 with the following:

M. O' JH_-25. (Amended) An image taking apparatus comprising:

a photoelectric conversion element; and

an image taking lens for forming an image of an object on a photosensitive surface of the photoelectric conversion element, said image taking lens comprising said zoom lens defined in claim 9.--